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ELIMINATION OF APARTHEID AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED, DEMOCRATIC AND NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 29 September 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement on developments in South Africa, adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its extraordinary session of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, held on 29 September 1993 in New York (see annex), and request you to have it circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 38, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nabil A. ELARABY
Permanent Representative of Egypt
to the United Nations
Representative of the Current
Chairman of the OAU

ANNEX

Statement on developments in South Africa, adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Africa of the Organization of African Unity at its extraordinary session of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, held in New York on 29 September 1993

An Extraordinary Ministerial meeting of the Ad hoc Committee of the OAU on Southern Africa took place in New York today 29 September 1993, to review the Situation in South Africa in the light of the latest developments in the peace process. The Ministers considered the Report presented by the Secretary General of the OAU on the current developments in South Africa. The Ministers were also fully briefed by the President of the African National Congress (ANC) and the Secretary General of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) on the state of play in the negotiations process.

The Committee was informed that four pieces of legislation, namely, the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC), the Independent Media Commission (IMC), the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), and the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) have been adopted by both the Negotiating Council and the South African Parliament and are in the process of being enacted into law.

Bearing these encouraging developments in mind, and taking account of the fact that the broad spectrum of the people of South Africa believe enough progress has been made in their process of transition to democracy to necessitate the lifting of economic sanctions imposed on South Africa over the years, the OAU cannot but recognize this reality and act in consonance with the wishes of the people of South Africa, even as it recognizes the fact that there exists a difference between the two Liberation Movements, the ANC and the PAC on the timing of the lifting of these sanctions.

In response to the appeal made for the lifting of all economic sanctions, the Ad hoc Committee on Southern Africa, on behalf of the OAU, calls upon all the African States, the International Community at large and the United Nations in particular, to respond positively to this appeal.

More specifically, the Ad hoc Committee supports the call for the lifting of all economic sanctions with the exception of those relating to the arms embargo and nuclear matters. With respect to the oil embargo, the Committee urges that this should be lifted after the establishment and commencement of the work of the Transitional Executive Council (TEC). The Committee also supports the establishment or restoration of full diplomatic relations with South Africa following the installation of an elected Interim Government of National Unity, pursuant to the elections to be held on 27 April 1994.

At the same time, the OAU appeals to its Member States and the International Community at large to help the people of South Africa in the economic reconstruction of their country and in ensuring that the new South Africa whose birth, hopefully we will soon witness,begins its existence on a firm economic foundation.

Finally, while encouraging the development of constructive relations with South Africa with a view to providing firm support towards democratic change, the Ad hoc Committee also calls upon all OAU Member States and the world at large to continue exercising vigilance with respect to developments in South Africa. Such vigilance is of the essence in order to ensre that the common objective of the people of South Africa, the peoples of Africa and the peoples of the world for a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa is achieved without deviation or obstruction.